

# Don't Sweat the Technique

Think before you speak...

I hate Carolina is tryin' to get hype, y'all! Protest marches, Black Power, Spike Lee at UNC, what is this world coming to? But people—my people—I've got a few problems with all this. This movement's been real inspirational and all that. I even noticed a few more people speaking to each other (smile). Some of us are probably "Blacker" now than we've ever been. But we have got to stop all this name calling and finger-pointing among ourselves.

Now I'm not talking about "ho," "dog," or "freak." I'm talking about names like "oreo," "house-nigga" and "Uncle Tom."

I know we're all guilty or at least know someone who is. I know I am, 'cause I'll call a someone an oreo in a minute. But in these troubled times, it's really not the thing to do. As hard as it is to stop calling those chocolate-covered white people "oreos" (and as much as they act, talk and dance like white people), we need to be trying to enlighten these people instead of alienate them.

It won't be easy. You might come upon one of "us" who says, "I mean gosh, why don't you guys just, like, take the multicultural center? You're just causing all this racial tension! I mean, like a lot of my friends are like, feeling the de facto separatism and so am I!"

Please don't hit 'em. Just say "Hey brother or sister, I don't mean to alarm you but... you're black!"

Of course they'll get defensive and say some of their favorite relatives are black and that it says so on their birth certificate so they don't need you to tell them and that we need to learn about white people (as if we aren't inundated with their history and culture daily, hourly, etc...) and the usual. Well, you can at least try.

I personally feel sorry for those who don't hang with us, chill with us and relate to us. I think they miss out on a lot. Parties where only a fourth of the people are drunk as opposed to all of them, actual dancing as opposed to—whatever it is they do, being able to laugh at Def Comedy Jam because you understand the jokes as opposed to waiting to see if they're supposed to be funny—the list is endless.

Like I said, I'm guilty on that account, but these other terms, "house-nigga" and "Uncle Tom" are not in my lexicon. (Look it up). As usual, I will be stepping on some toes but as I always say: I don't point fingers and I don't name names, and I damn sure wouldn't

do it in front of 7,000 people in the Dean Dome.

We will not get anywhere as long as we continue to publicly label our own people with names specifically designed to degrade and defame black people.

"House nigga?" Just what is a "House-nigga?" Let's see here, a slave which worked in the massa's house, got special privileges, and was representative of the massa's wealth.

Well I hate to break this to y'all, but we are in a white school, living in residence halls named after white people and living in white-owned apartment buildings. We also get special privileges, 'cause don't think for one minute that if we had been a group of residents from the 'hood marching on somebody's house we wouldn't have been in jail with a quickness. "But Hardin's house is public property," you say. Yeah, so was that street on which they commenced to beat Rodney King's a%\$.

"Well, we don't represent 'the massa's' wealth," you say. Think again. How much government funding do you think this school can get without a nice healthy black population? Wow, we all a bunch a'



House-nigga's! Feels kinda funny, don't it? You know what they say: Point one finger, and you got three more pointin' right back atcha'.

As for this Uncle Tom business, aside from the fact that you can be sued—yes, sued, as in a court of law—for calling someone an Uncle Tom, you would want to watch it. If you remember reading Uncle Tom's Cabin, that is, if you've read it at all, you'll find that Uncle Tom was a very big, powerful black man who could have gone upside Simon LeGree's head once and laid him out. But he chose not to react and refused to resort to violence in order to retain his integrity and good standing with the Lord. Hmm... sounds a lot to me like—gasp!—THE Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King!

"LIES!! Martin Luther King An Uncle Tom?" Why hell no! For the meaning it's taken on (not any other way—'cause I ain't try to get sued!). Some of us need to think about that before we go around slandering people and jeopardizing our own cause, especially if we not sure of what we're saying.

Find out who's really behind this movement for yourself. If you don't, you're just as guilty as people who assume we have no history simply because they never bother to go look it up. Besides, Uncle Tom was a strong black man. You try and "roll over" the wrong "Uncle Tom," and your "Uncle Tom" might have something—excuse me, French—for yo' ass.

## "Rebuilding Our Foundation" UNC Black Alumni Reunion Weekend

Black Alumni invite you  
to a discussion on: Financial aid concerns,  
career networking opportunities and more.

Join Us After the Football Game

4-6 p.m. Sat. Oct. 16

Sonja Haynes Stone Black Cultural Center

# Yackety Yack

The Yearbook of the University of North Carolina

The Yackety Yack has  
openings in the following  
positions:

Organizational  
Treasurer  
and

a student-at-large  
position on the  
Yackety Yack  
Board of Directors.

Interested persons  
should come by  
Suite 106 of the  
Union for an  
application or call  
962-3912 and ask  
for information.

Application deadline 5PM October 24